

The Whole Truth

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

"The law of truth was in his mouth and iniquity was not found in his mouth." MAL. 2:6. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." JOHN 8:32.

VOLUME XVIII, NO. XI

C.O.G.I.C. HEADQUARTERS, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

NOVEMBER, 1985

WHAT A CONVOCATION!

The 78th International Holy Convocation was held in Memphis, November 5-15, 1985. The theme of the convocation was "Understanding the World's Needs." Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr., and the General Board presided over this great meeting. The meeting was marked by the large crowds which experienced great preaching, fellowship and spirituality.

For the record, Bishop W. A. Patterson was selected to fill in for Bishop Robert Woodard. Bishop L. H. Ford announced Bishop W. A. Patterson as "one of the fathers of this church." Bishop Patterson took a text from Ephesians and used the theme, "God's First and Final Choice." He preached very hard! His son asked him to bring the message to a close. This prompted the bishop to say, "This is my son, and he is telling his 87 year old daddy it is time to sit down." This was the first message of the convocation. Earlier in the day, Bishop Chandler

Owens prayed a prayer of monumental spiritual proportions.

Elder James Felton preached in the stead of Bishop C. L. Anderson. This dynamic young man demonstrated skill and flowing locution while preaching. His message from St. John, (In the beginning was the Word) carried a wealth of substance. Like one brother said, "the man simply preached." The Bishop F. D. Macklin of Headquarters was scheduled, but selected his administrative aid, Bishop Samuel Lowe, to fill the bill. He preached a noble message. That evening, Elder Derrick Hutchins stood behind the pulpit and proclaimed "The Greatest Proof." The text was found in John 3:16, 17. Bishop P. A. Brooks, general board member, took a text from Ephesians 3:14-17. The subject he preached was "Established on the Word of God." His message preceded the Special Anointing Service conducted by Bishop J. O. Patterson. The Bishop O. T. Jones, Jr., con-

ducted the interim and brought heaven down while singing "Spirit of the Living God." That evening, Elder R. L. Asberry opened the service at the Cook Convention Center. His message, "Thanksgiving for the Blessing of Redemption," was selected from Ephesians 1:3-14. Bishop Ward preached a noble message from Hebrews 11:23- "I Have Chosen This Way." Elder Albert Pass conducted the Prayer and Deliverance Service. The testimonies of healing, deliverance and baptism were wonderful. The evangelist extraordinaire preached a great message entitled "But This Man!" His text was taken from Hebrews 10:12. Elder Paul Ealy selected his message from Luke 15:18, 19. His thought, "The Constant Availability of God," was a refreshing examination of the prodigal son story. Elder Richard "Mr. Clean" White delivered in his unique style. He asked the practical question, "Have You Got it Like the Bible Said?" Bishop H. J. Bell shook

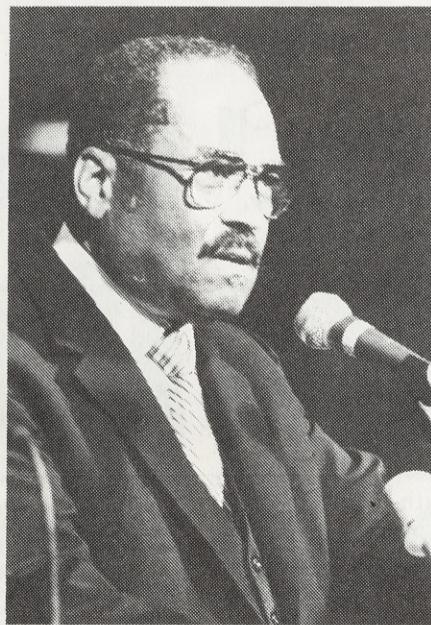
the convocation with a God sent message entitled, "Surviving the Times." The profound scripture text found in I Chronicles, the 12th chapter states in Jerusalem there were men, men who understood their time and who knew what to do. Elder S. E. Mitchell and Missionary Emily Bram Bibby doubleheaded the Saturday night service. Missionary Bibby spoke about "The Best Thing That Ever Happened." Elder Mitchell presented his classic and dynamic method of Holy Ghost preaching. His text from II Chronicles 7:13, 14 yielded the subject, "I've Got to Tell What's on My Heart."

The Communion message was rich indeed. Elder Campbell from Chicago did a double service. His message, "The Importance of Communion" was equally significant for the twelve men being consecrated as bishops. Bishop Nathaniel Jones, newly appointed Executive Director of C. H. Mason System of Bible Colleges, preached from

Romans 8:26-29. His message, "The Changing Face of COGIC," was thought provoking. The Women's Day was special. Many beautiful ladies spoke, and Mother McGlothen presented a fine message. She basically reported on the women's work. The women of the church are truly busy. One worthy note was the housing prepared for elderly and disabled mothers of the church. The Women's Department recently completed another home in Memphis. After the General Board approved the work, mother presented the property to the National Church.

Again, as usual, the final word must go to Dr. Mattie Moss Clark and the Music Department. The entire convocation was blessed throughout with the music and songs Dr. Clark and her staff provided.

OFFICIAL DAY



BISHOP J. O. PATTERSON



REV. JESSE JACKSON

The Bishop J. O. Patterson and the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson provided the Word of God on the Official Day of the Holy Convocation. Bishop Patterson spent the entire week battling a sore throat, but was prepared to deliver God's Word. The more than 25,000 saints sat and heard our leader preach "Seeing the Unseen." He developed his message from a text in II Kings. His powerful preaching reaffirmed our belief in God's help. Though unseen, his help is ever present during times of need. The cen-

tral character in the sermon was Elisha, showing how his faith brought him victory. Bishop Paralleled his thought with examples of salvation. The saints were assured that being born again was the way to see and understand the supernatural dealings of God. Basically, to see right one must be right!

During the presentations, Bishop characterized his heartfelt love and appreciation to those serving the church. He praised the General Board for

their continued endorsement of American Airlines, which saves COGIC delegates 45% in discounted convention airfares. He thanked those responsible for the telethon effort and encouraged the saints to prepare themselves to build a new administration building during 1986. Bishop Patterson's message was the crown upon a most spiritual convocation.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson was the Presiding Bishop's special guest. The former presidential candi-

date was his normally lucid and very interesting self. This time, he showed us a spiritual preaching side which made him even more profound. His message shared a wealth of evidence that demonstrated the support the Church of God in Christ has given to the struggle of Black people over the years. This demonstrated our kinship to the Baptist church in the same struggle. He pointed out that Dr. King used Mason Temple to hold rallies. Many of our preachers

supported the movement. He made special mention of our Presiding Bishop's support during his presidential bid. He gave Bishop L. H. Ford special recognition for his hometown and national support.

Rev. Jackson preached a spiritual message which reflected today's issues and a look toward the future of our church's involvement in the struggle for personal rights and salvation.

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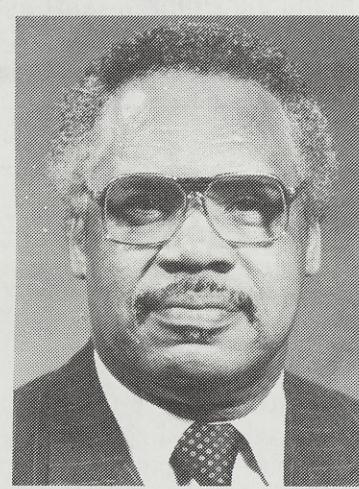
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GUEST EDITORIAL

CHURCH'S ROLE

by
Elder C. A. Young

To the Editor:

Once again Christianity has an opportunity in this century to speak out on an issue involving human rights and human suffering. In Europe during the suffering of the Jews under Hitler, the church was criticized, and rightly so, for being silent, too passive or more so a supporter of the perpetrators of the Nazi Holocaust.

Perhaps the Christian church could also be guilty of the same

during the slavery question in our country. Many of the so-called church hierarchy in those days were not for the abolition of this evil system of slavery.

If the world has to look to the church and Christians for answers to human misery, then people such as the Rev. Jerry Falwell will once again give the church a sad mark for its efforts. Mr. Falwell represents a large segment of evangelical Christians in this country, but let's hope and pray that his support of the apartheid system in South Africa is just his enigmatic view, and not that of any Christian denomination in America.

I believe the message of Christ on good will and love for all people supports those black persons in South Africa. I would hardly believe that if Christ were in human flesh on this Earth, he would uphold the views of Mr. Falwell and President P. W. Botha.

The Rev. C. A. Young
Philadelphia

A SOLDIER'S STORY

To many he is known by many different and affectionate names, "Elder", "Rev", "Reverend", "Superintendent", "Supe", "Dad", "Granddad", "Uncle Dave", "Mr.", and probably others that this author does not know, but there is one name which was ascribed to him by our Jurisdictional Bishop, Bishop Nathaniel Jones, Jr., which sums them all: "Mr. Church of God in Christ", a name he is known by not only in intermountain region, but throughout the brotherhood. He has earned this name because this great man of God eats, sleeps, wakes up, walks and talks and possibly dreams about the people of this "Grand Old Church" it's in his "bones" and he just can't help it.

Supt. David Franklin Griffin was born November 3, 1912, in Mayflower, Ark. One of fourteen children born to Thomas and Melinda Griffin. Even that he was born, was a sign that this was a special child, and God had a special calling on his life. After his mother's ninth child, before he was born, she became sick and the doctor gave her 3 days to live, but our founder, Bishop C. H. Mason, prayed for her, and she was not only miraculously healed but gave birth to 5 more children, of which Supt. Griffin was the last, praise God.

He was born to godly parents who loved and feared the Lord.

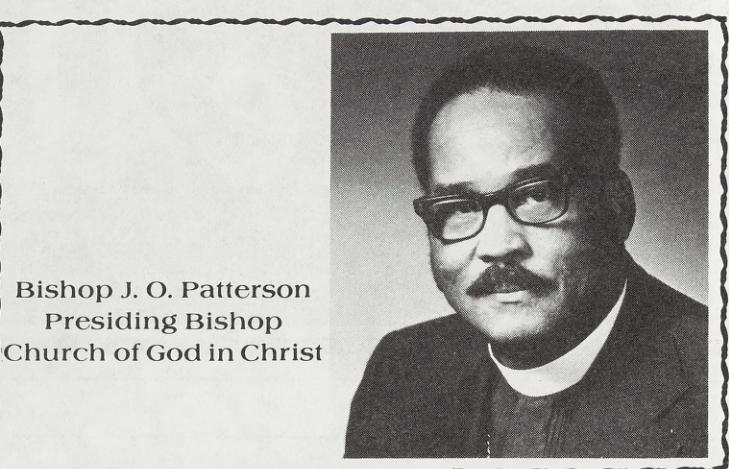
He remembered how his father would get them up on Sunday morning for family prayer. His mother also was a woman of prayer. She came to holiness after hearing Bishop Mason

defend his faith, no one could challenge him, which convinced her that holiness was right. Her prayer to God was that he would allow her to see one of her sons preach. At this time none of them were preachers. Her prayer was answered later on, as she was blessed to hear him preach.

He went to school in Faulkner and Perry counties. He was a good student who made B's and C's and was willing to learn all he could. He was very athletic, his best sport being baseball. He attended Laurance Dunbar High School in Little Rock, Ark, where he went to 10th grade. When he got sick, and did not return, he started to work.

It was revealed to him in a vision in 1936, that he would be a preacher, this was a year before he got saved. In this vision, he saw a big cloud like a storm cloud come up and then go away. He also heard a voice say "Your cousin is gone, the spirit is ready to ordain thee a prophet of the nation" and he could see himself at the funeral. Later on, he received the word that she had died but it seemed like he was not going to be able to make it to the funeral in time, but he remembered, he saw himself at the funeral so he made his way, and when he got there, the funeral should have been over, but miraculously it was not, for they had not committed her body to the ground. This confirmed his called to the ministry.

He got saved the next year during a revival conducted by Elder S. M. Chambers and Elder C. C. Chapman and others. At



Bishop J. O. Patterson
Presiding Bishop
Church of God in Christ

Church of God in Christ, Inc.
International Headquarters
Memphis, Tennessee



Office of the Presiding Bishop

Dear Saints:

I am always pleased to acknowledge the ever present blessings of the Lord which He presents to us through various occurrences and acts. As I reflect on these blessings, I am filled with awe and my heart rejoices.

Among these many blessings is the unique opportunity I have had to serve as the Chief-servant of some of the finest people in the Family of God, the Church of God in Christ. Your tremendous support for this administration and the concern you have shown for my family and me has been one of the greatest blessings anyone could have ever received.

At this very special season of the year when we again pause to think on those who are near to us, I extend to you and your family warm wishes for a blessed Holy Season and pray that God will grant you multiplied blessings now and in the ensuing year.

Yours in His service,



***J. O. Patterson, Sr.
Presiding Bishop***

the church where he attended on 14th and Pulaski St. in Little Rock, Ark. While walking down Ringo Street in the same city, during a time when he was confronted with many problems, he made a commitment to the Lord, "Lord, if you save me, I'll serve you the rest of my days", which he has kept, and is yet faithfully doing. He got baptized on Easter Sunday of that same year and accepted his call to the ministry later that year and preached his first sermon from I Sam. 17, on David and Goliath.

Elder Griffin received his early training under the ministry of Elder L. C. Page, the national evangelist of the COGIC, and also Elder Price. Elder W. H. Mitchell asked Elder Griffin to come over and help him in North Little Rock, he was licensed by Supt. Mitchell in 1942, while in the Army at Fort Bragg, Okla. Elder Griffin asked for and

received a pass to attend the Youth Congress in Kansas City, Mo. He later united with Supt. Williams, but also worshipped with the State Sunday School Supt. of Missouri, Elder D. J. Young.

After returning to Oklahoma, he offered up his resignation to Missouri, where he served the rest of his commission. All the time he was in the army he sent his tithes back to his pastor. After leaving the army he returned to Little Rock where he worked with Elder Mitchell until Elder Page, his pastor, requested that he return.

Elder Griffin was faithful in whatever he was asked to do. And was content with serving as a deacon-minister, until Elder Page asked him to come and sit in the pulpit with the other elders. He felt out of place in

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NATIONAL NEWS

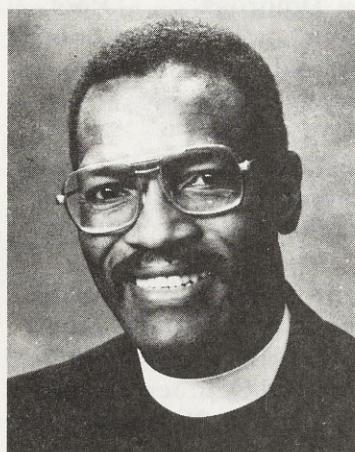
BISHOPS CONSECRATED

The Presiding Bishop and the General Board consecrated several men to the rank of bishop on November 11, 1985. This historic event was a first in the history of our Church.

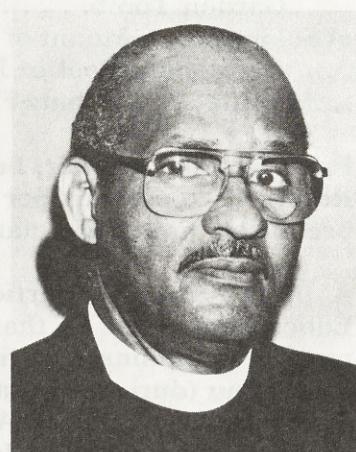
These men have been appointed to serve jurisdictions or assigned as new members of the Board of Bishops. It became necessary to consecrate them together because of their large number. Now, what more appropriate setting than the splendid beauty of the Holy Communion. Some

20,000 saints received the Lord's broken body and blood, the witnessed the consecration of these servants in the church.

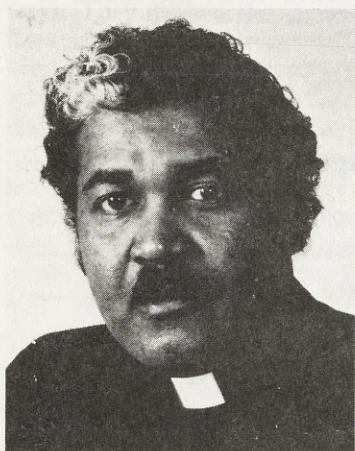
The following men were consecrated: Bishop Charles A. Blake, Bishop Clarence Davis, Bishop Stanley Frazier, Bishop W. L. Harris, Bishop Roger Jones, Bishop George D. McKinney, Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr., Bishop M. F. Sconiers, Bishop M. J. Sykes, Bishop Franklin Walker, Bishop Nathaniel Wells and Bishop Earl Wright.



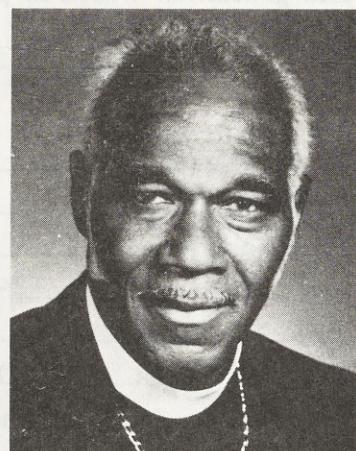
BISHOP C. E. BLAKE, I
PRELATE OF 1ST JURIS. OF
SOUTHERN CALIF.



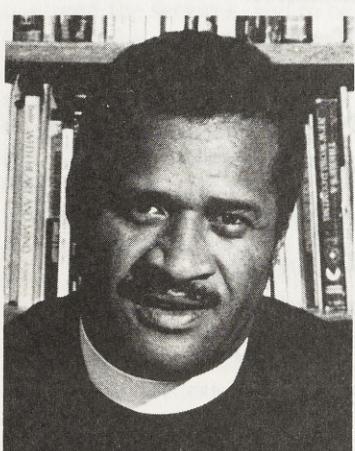
BISHOP C. J. DAVIS
NORTHWESTERN JURIS. OF CALIF.



BISHOP S. N. FRAZIER
BISHOP OF MINNESOTA



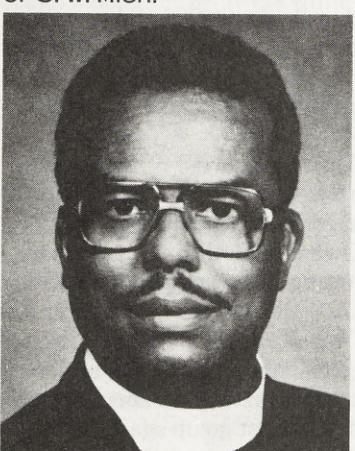
BISHOP W. L. HARRIS
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 1ST JURIS.
OF S. W. MICH.



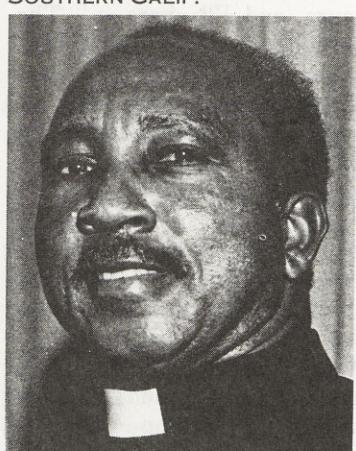
BISHOP R. L. JONES
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 3RD JURIS.
OF S. W. MICH.



BISHOP G. D. MCKINNEY
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 3RD JURIS.
SOUTHERN CALIF.



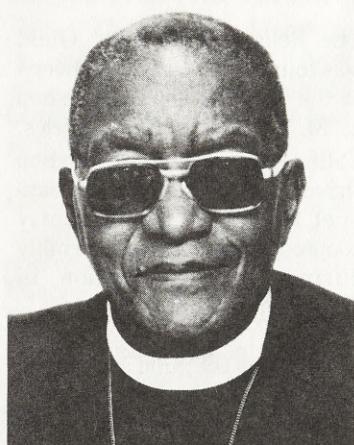
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AUXILIARY BISHOP



BISHOP M. L. SCONIERS
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, WESTERN
FLA.



BISHOP M. J. SYKES
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 2ND JURIS.
OF KENTUCKY



BISHOP G. F. WALKER
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 2ND JURIS.
OF W. VIR.



BISHOP N. W. WELLS, II
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 4TH JURIS.
OF S. W. MICH.



BISHOP E. J. WRIGHT
BISHOP-DESIGNATE, 2ND JURS.
OF S. W. MICH.

WORLD LARGEST SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bishop C. W. Williams, International Superintendent of the Sunday School Department and staff hosted the world's largest Sunday School, during the Holy Convocation. In the words of Bishop Williams, "this is the only Sunday School where people arrive at 6:00 a.m. to get a seat. Some arrived at 4:00 a.m. this morning. Of course this is the Official Day. Our staff which consist of 80% lay teachers where in place and ready to teach at 6:00 a.m."

The bishop was assisted in the effort by Elder Jerry Macklin, Elder Samuel Fluker, Elder P. H. Porter, Elder Robert Smith, Elder James Ewing and International Field Rep. Sis. Gloria Smith. These hard working administrators and the loyal volunteers conducted the more than 20,000 students in the morning's lesson.

The staff programed incentives to help build both attendance and financial support. The teacher of the best class accord-

ing to jurisdictional type having the largest offering was awarded a gift. The jurisdiction class "A" teacher with the largest offering over \$300.00 won a new Bible. Jurisdiction class "B" having the largest amount over \$200.00 won the Deborah Mason Patterson Sunday School plaque. The smallest jurisdiction was class "C" and the one having the most over \$100.00 won the teacher a brass Sunday School bell.

Another interesting activity was the presentation of the praise "Yes" in four languages. Sister Themla Butts led the entire school in singing the praise in spanish, french, german and english.

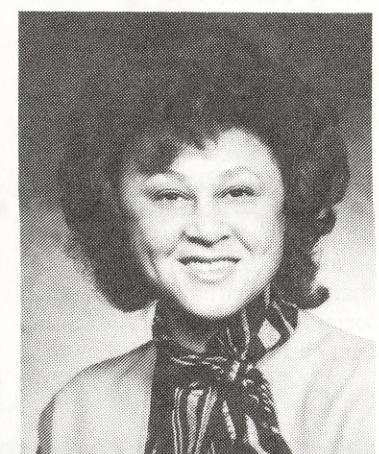
This reporter asked Bishop Williams for a final word. The bishop said, "all Sunday Schools should be alert to help train the people in scripture. Every local church should make the Sunday School a prime tool in developing biblical knowledge."

A S U COOKBOOK

Mrs. Sylvia Law, ASU Board Member, is pleased to announce the development of an ASU cookbook. She is heading a committee to publish the favorite recipes of the saints. Should you have a recipe to share and desire to help ASU become a reality, then mail it in for possible publication. The address is below.

Sister Law knows that sharing those secret ingredients with one another will increase our fellowship and benefit ASU. Some of you may possibly want to share special diet recipes or recipes for specific health diets.

Mail to: Saints Center
ASU Recipes



MRS. SYLVIA LAW

P. O. Box 320
Memphis, Tenn. 38101

CONVOCATION TO STAY

The General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ voted during the 78th Holy Convocation to keep the annual meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. The issue of moving the convocation has created much conversation and speculation during the past two years. Recent years of discontentment with the housing situation in Memphis was the source of the problem.

The delegates voted down a sincere effort to move the meeting. The assembly in a spirit of

seeking to maintain our heritage and cure the problem, formed a committee to continue the work already done by the Presiding Bishop's committee to solve the problem of housing. Bishop Patterson suggested the Church clean her house while seeking to correct the abuses of the hotel industry.

The 79th Holy Convocation will be in Memphis. See you in November for another great gathering of the saints.

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FINE ARTS CONCERT A SUCCESS



MR. WILLIAM BROWN AND ELDER J. O. PATTERSON, JR.

Friday, November 1, 1985 will be long remembered as a great event. The Historical Museum and Fine Arts Center presented its first Mother Deborah Mason Patterson Benefit Concert. The concert was dedicated to the loving memory of the sainted Mother Deborah Mason Patterson. The Presiding Bishop J. O. Patterson was married to Mother Patterson nearly 51 years, and he and hundreds of saints shared in the evening.

Sister Sara Jordan Powell, the chairperson of the activity, worked many hours to bring the world class talent of artists, William Brown and accompanists, Dr. Clarence Horace Boyer and Dr. Mrs. Marian Tally Brown, to Memphis. This trio performed before hundreds and shared a spiritual, cultural and social activity unparalleled in our church. Thousands who

were not able to attend were sponsors of the concert via their financial contribution.

Mr. Brown, who is a member of the Church of God in Christ in Jacksonville, Florida, is respected the world over for his massive talents. He has performed in London, England, Helsinki, Finland and most major American cities. Many major symphonic orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony and many other prestigious companies have used his talents. Thank God William Brown is COGIC, and now he has placed us on his list of performing credits.

God has blessed our church with these three sanctified and talented people. From the many standing ovations and expressions of love, I am sure the Browns and Dr. Boyer know this.

RELIGIOUS WORKER DINNER

78th Holy Convocation.

In spite of the affair being in honor of the Guild's president, far more effort was exerted by Dr. Owens to extend praise to others for their labor and accomplishments. Consequently, no utterance could have been stated any higher, or any plainer, about the generosity of Dr. Owens, willing to share his honor with other workers in the Lord's vineyard.

Among the recipients of honors was Bishop F. D. Macklin, Bishop over Headquarters. He was granted a Special Achievement Award for his many years of being an organizer, preacher, pastor, civic leader in Memphis, and ultimately to celebrate his promotion to Jurisdictional Bishop by His Grace, Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr.

In addition, Bishop Charles Brewer, Jr. was presented an award for excellent service as a pastor, organizer etc. in New Haven, Conn. Mention was also made of his bishopric and new appointment as YPWW International President.

Another honoree was the Elder David Hall, Editor-in-Chief of the Whole Truth Paper. Elder Hall was not able to attend the

banquet due to some unforeseen commitments. However, his comments were that he was most grateful and honored to have been chosen by the Guild to receive an award. His award was in the area of Christian journalism relative to his outstanding work with the Whole Truth.

Other awardees were Bishop F. E. Perry of Cleveland, Ohio; Bishop J. I. Cobb of Carbondale, Ill.; Elder Richard White of New Orleans, La.; Ms. Theresa Myles of Canton, Ohio, and Rev. Lorenzo Kelly of Rapid City, S. D.

The Religious Workers' Guild was founded by Dr. C. C. Owens at the home of the late Bishop L. M. Driver in Los Angeles, Calif. (The widow of Bishop Driver was present at the banquet.) It was subsequently adopted by the general Assembly during the Convocation in December of 1959.

Awarded by the guild are several honors which include the "Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award". This award is considered by the group to be the church's highest honor. (Bishop C. D. Owens made preliminary remarks to the effect that he would be instrumental in bringing the matter of the C. H. Mason Award before the General Assembly to have it officially sanctioned as COGIC's top award.) Other honors created by the Guild are the Special Achievement Award and the Citation of Special Commendation.

Dr. C. C. Owens, the Guild's president, is Chairman of the State Executive Board and Administrative Assistant for the Southern Ill. Jurisdiction. He pastors the Emanuel Church in Chicago and has served as Superintendent of the Lakeshore District for 25 years.

During the program, commendations, were received by Dr. Owens from Bishop J. I. Cobbs, prelate over Southern Ill. and Bishop Buchanan from Japan, the Land of the Rising Sun. Both men expressed their beliefs that Dr. Owens was doing a superb job and that the guild is a vital auxiliary in the Church which honors worthy servants.

The Toast Master for the evening was Dr. Charles E. Smith, Jr., vice president, of Seattle, Washington. The program got underway with a solo from Evangelist Francene Morrison from Texas and the Black National Anthem--"Lift Every Voice and Sing" as led by the beautiful anointed voice of Ms. Christine J. Jones of Chicago. Following the invocation by Elder E. E. Dickerson and Statement of Purpose from Supervisor Lucy Flagg, the gathering received a hearty welcome to Memphis--the HOME OF THE SAINTS--from the honorable Bishop F. D. Macklin, presiding over Headquarters.

Bishop Owens, in his address, summed up life into three roads--Jericho, Damascus and Emmaus. "On the Jericho Road", he said, "is found three philosophies of life: What's mine is mine, and

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Price includes air fair, buses, guides, First Class Hotels, (two persons per room with private bath) breakfast, dinner and many other special features.

A prerequisite to participating in this Special Educational Tour is that each participant must register a minimum of fifteen (15) persons for a future tour (during September and October - 1986) by February 15, 1986. A deposit of \$200.00, for each person registered for the tour must accompany the list of names submitted. NOT INCLUDED in the tour cost is a \$50.00 fee for departure taxes and gratuities which is payable with payment of tour cost.

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I'll keep it; What's yours is mine, and I'll take it; What's mine is yours, and I'll share it." The ultimate point made relative to this road was that if one is a part of God's enterprise, then he must have love in his heart, taking the motto that what's mine is yours, and I'll share it. Further, he said, "On the Emmaus Road, the hopes and dreams of men were dashed across a sky of hopelessness (following the Crucifixion)." After explaining the difference between a miracle and the supernatural, Bishop Owens proclaimed that a miracle took place on Emmaus when Christ walked with these disciples,

once more, on this road. "Finally, it was on Damascus that Paul met God and was then sent to straight street to find a straight man to put him on a straight road."

The main thrust of the evening as well as Bishop Owen's message was in encouraging Dr. Owens and Christian workers, letting them know, at one point, that life is like a pendulum. "What's up" he said, "must come down. And if you're down today, just remember what's down must go up again!"

Charles Perry



BISHOP C. D. OWENS

A delicious twenty-five-dollar-a-plate benefit dinner was served. Part of the proceeds was designated for All Saints University. The atmosphere was pleasant. Awards and commendations were extended to several worthy servants in the Lord's work. Anointed music was rendered, and a short but powerful address was brought by the eloquent Bishop C. D. Owens, General Board member.

The fellowship was heavenly as the Religious Workers' Guild celebrated its 26th Anniversary with a Benefit-Awards Dinner and Testimonial, honoring Dr. C. C. Owens, its president. The event was held at the Ramada Inn Downtown Memphis, November 11, 1985 during the

JURISDICTIONAL NEWS

VIRGIN ISLAND REPORT

There are almost fifty churches located on the Island of St. Thomas in the U. S. Virgin Islands, representing approximately fifteen denominations. From time to time several of the local churches will join in combined functions such as the observation of an anniversary celebration. Among the leaders in fostering close work with other congregations is the Pentecostal Church of God in Christ, under the leadership of Superintendent Joseph W. Lewis.

An example of this leadership is the way in which the recent Eleventh Annual Women's Convention was conducted. The event was held under the direction of Sis. H. Margaret Lewis, Supervisor of the Women's Department. The services began on Wednesday, August 21, and continued through the week, with the final service held on the evening of Sunday, August 25.

Preceding the convention were many hours of planning as evidenced by the number of persons attending. The various auxiliaries of the Women's Department participated throughout the services in many ways. They greeted the assemblies and led in congregational singing. They were also very active in the areas of opening prayers, Scripture readings, and receiving offerings. Of course this speaks well for the cooperation and unity within the church. Equally important is the cooperation and ability to work with other groups in different churches.

The Women's Convention sponsored by the church was intended to be a blessing to the women of other fellowships as well. To that end, several other Ladies Fellowships were invited to attend the services, and to be a part of the programs as well. Each church was asked to supply a convention speaker for the service on a particular day, and also to provide a musical selection. The speaker on the first night was Sis. Joyce Fahie of the Church of God of Prophecy. The following night Sis. Rosita Cynjie of the Bovoni Baptist Church spoke to the attendees. On the third night Sis. Emelda Frederick of the St. Thomas Assembly of God Church was the speaker.

It is good to share in this interaction among the believers while we are here on this earth as we

SOUTH EAST ILLINOIS

Praise the Lord for South East Illinois's First State Women's Convention. Convened (5) days, July 15th-20th, under the capable leadership of our Jurisdictional Supervisor, Mother Jean Scott. Theme, "Dedicated Women's Indispensable to Success (COGIC) Ministry," Philippians 4:2-4.

The State Choir was at its best

certainly will be fellowshipping together in Heaven. As the ladies brought the messages, the theme "Spiritually Equipped For The Challenge" was brought closer and closer to a reality.

Sunday, the final day of the convention was also a very special day. Sis. Lewis delivered the message in the morning service, during which she encouraged all present to be strengthened and prepared for the challenge, for the journey is great. Following the service was a luncheon at the Frenchtown Community Center, that permitted an informal social time. Still later in the afternoon the Second Annual Banner March was held. The marchers started at Market Square and proceeded to the church, approximately a half mile away. Spirits were high, and caused one person to remark about the service that followed "Our fellowship service was like one we'll never forget. Everyone was greeting, shouting, dancing and praising the Lord. Oh, what a glorious time." Yes, the Lord was really blessing as many came forward to answer the call for more workers, and many dedicated and rededicated their lives. The convention came to a close following a memorable communion service.

Congratulations to the Women's Department (consisting of Sis. Lewis, Supervisor; Evangelist Catherine Alexander; Prayer Leader, Miriam Harris; Missionary President, Evelyn Blydne; Puritan Leader, Deaconess Muriel Charles; Sunshine Band President, Missionary Valerie Browne; and Deaconess Band President, Deaconess G. M. Henry) and all the others, both members and visitors for a spirit-filled, blessing packed convention.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Pastor Lewis recently celebrated his twenty-fifth year in the ministry. In recognition of this tenure of a quarter century of dedicated service the church would be happy to receive donations to their much needed building fund.

Submitted for, and at the request of, Pastor Joseph W. Lewis.

Stanley Gussow
Hands of Fellowship Ministry

each night singing under the "Anointing" of the "Holy Ghost," Madame Frankie Banks, President. Oh, how the Lord blessed us in our First Women's Convention. Each night was "Spiritfilled." One highlight of the Convention was the Workshop. Missionary Dean Ethel Johnson engineered the session, which was enriching and spiritual. Convention

speaker was Evangelist Ester Smith from Detroit, Michigan, National Evangelist and Recording Artist, ministered to all the saints, with the out-pouring of the Spirit of the Holy Ghost. Oh, how the saints rejoiced each night.

On Thursday night, the parade of Banners. Mother Roxalana Moore, State Marshall of Women's Convention, all Missionaries, District Missionaries, State Auxiliary Presidents and Chairpersons marched, "When The Saints Go Marching In," with Mother Moore, wife of our Jurisdictional Bishop Lemuel N. Moore, beautiful lady in the Lord.

Supervisor Jean Scott was installed, July of 1984. She succeeded the passing of the late Mother Jesse B. Ford. Mother Ford was State Supervisor for 26 years under the late Bishop G. W. Gillispie, of South East Illinois Jurisdiction. We are praying that the Lord will continue to bless us in a mighty way. We are blessed to have such a wonderful Supervisor, a great leader, one that God has given the insight, love, and concern, desire and determination to work with Women of South East Illinois. Mother Scott is the wife of Elder William Scott. He is the Pastor of Mount Calvary Church of God in Christ, Washington Park, Illinois. They are the parents of one daughter, son-in-law and one grandchild (son).

My God, righteously bless South East Illinois under these great leaders, such as Bishop Lemuel N. Moore, Jurisdictional Bishop, Auxiliary Bishop H. H. Webster, our father in the Gospel. Mother Jean Scott said, "May God grant that this Convention will enrich and enhance the inspiration and experience of the saints throughout our lives. The Lord has done great things for us, wherefore we are glad. Let each of us endeavor to keep the unity of the "Spirit" live Holy. May an Abundance of God's Blessings be Yours."

Mother Jean Scott, President
Women's State Convention
Lillian Embrey, Reporter



MOTHER JEAN SCOTT

UNEQUALLY YOKED by Mrs. Barbara M. Lewis

Many of the friends I grew up with in the church for one reason or another married men outside the body of Christ. This writing is intended to encourage those individuals who are in that situation...

United in a permanent union with a mate who is not saved. Such a woman is in a hard and often heartbreaking position.

A believing woman and her unbelieving husband probably differ sharply about their lifestyles. He cannot share the joy of her salvation, not even her basic purpose for living. Many women feel hopeless and guilty for their circumstances.

What if I'd done things differently? Am I doing all I can to win him to Christ? Am I responsible for his salvation? These are questions spiritually single women ask themselves.

There are three basic reasons women are married to unbelievers: One, a woman accepts Christ and her husband doesn't. Suddenly she is unequally yoked. Second, often, Christian women marry an unbeliever who confesses Christ. He exhibits outward evidences. He goes to church, reads his Bible, but later after the vows, his wife realizes his faith was pretentious. Third, there are those who willfully disobey Paul's injunction not to marry unbelievers. Later, when those women

become more conscious of God and his commands for holy living, they may bear tremendous guilt.

Marrying an unbeliever is not an unforgiveable sin. Don't punish yourself for the rest of your life. Because you are unequally yoked does not mean that the marriage itself is a sin, nor does it mean that the wife is "living in sin." Marriage was established by God and it is for all people. A wife can become so obsessed with her husband's unbelief that she forgets her responsibilities to him, which is clearly defined in the word. (Read I Peter 3:1, 2) All wives are to be in subjection (submissive) to their husbands and by doing this he just might be won. The Bible says your chaste conversation coupled with fear will have an effect on him.

Scripture tells us to let patience have her perfect work (James 1:4). As you allow the fruits of the spirit to enrich your life, your patience becomes evident. Many wives in desperation start "preaching" and judging their husbands, pressuring him to behave differently or "nagging" him to go to church. It is not your responsibility to save him. Only God can do that. You just live the life. Rejecting Christ is a personal choice. Peace will prevail in your life if you just accept

Continued on page 7

ANSWERED PRAYERS by Evangelist Mary Lou Parker

There is nothing that encourages the Saints of God more (with the exception of souls being saved) than having received or hearing of answered prayers. Recently the Lord has been dealing with me in the area of prevailing prayer. He has kept the latter part of James 5:16 before me: "...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." In our walk with the Lord there are answered prayers too numerous to mention, but there are some that stand out in our memories. I wish to share three of such with you.

The early months of 1943, were not prosperous months for me. I lived in a sparse one room kitchenette on 58th place in Chicago. My wardrobe was as sparse as my apartment. The beloved church I attended, Roberts Temple COGIC was more than 18 blocks from my apartment, much too far to walk. One Sunday night I longed to return to church for the night service. I only had transportation for one way. If I remember correctly, train fare was 10¢ or there about, remember this was 42 years ago.

Bishop Roberts had often taught

us about faith in the Lord, of how the Lord loved and cared for each of us. With this in mind, I placed a chair in the corner of the room and knelt before it. I still remember the simple sincere prayer. "Lord, I'm going to church in Your name, please see that I get a way home." I wasn't going to tell anyone of my plight.

The wonderful thing was that I didn't have to sit through service wondering how I would get home. For no sooner had I taken my seat, a young sister, Sister Gutherine Taylor, tipped over to me. She placed a large box in my lap, pressed a five dollar bill in my hand as she whispered, "The Lord placed this on my heart to give to you."

The box contained two beautiful suit dresses, and in those days five dollars was money! Five dollars was FIVE DOLLARS! I realized while I was praying, the Lord was answering. I shall always hold that answered prayer with fondness in my heart, for it was the first prayer I remember being answered after my glorious spiritual birth on New Years Night of 1943.

Continued on page 7

SOLOMON TEMPLE

The Solomon Temple Church of God in Christ in Savannah, Georgia has received a new pastor. He is the Elder Andrew Calhoun, III. Elder Calhoun is the third pastor of Solomon Temple since it was founded 43 years ago.

Solomon Temple enjoys a rich heritage in the Church of God in Christ. The church was founded in 1942, by the late Bishop W. H. Solomon. Bishop Solomon was the organizer of the Southeast Georgia Jurisdiction. The second pastor of the church was the late Elder Ezell Ward. Under both of these spiritual leaders many souls were won to Christ.

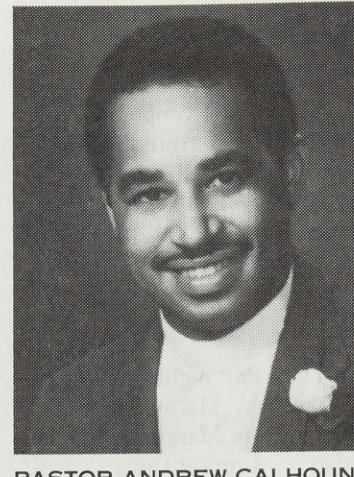
Elder Calhoun grew up in Bolivar, Tennessee. He is the son of Mrs. Mattie C. Williams of Bolivar and the late Andrew Calhoun, Jr. Elder Calhoun comes to Solomon Temple from Atlanta, Georgia where he received a Master's of Divinity Degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) and the C. H. Mason Seminary this past May. He also holds an A. S. degree from Jackson State Community College, Jackson, Tennessee; B. S. and M. S.

degrees from Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee.

Elder Calhoun has received many awards from both the academia and the community. While at ITC, he served as the President for the C. H. Mason Student Fellowship. He also received the Oliver Haney, Sr. Preaching Award, The Dean's Honor Award, The O. C. Brown Fellowship Award and graduated on the school's honor roll. He has served on ministerial staffs in Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Georgia. He served as the President of the Department of Missions for the South Carolina Jurisdiction 82/84. Elder Calhoun and his wife, Brenda have two sons, Kevin and Brian.

The church celebrated the coming of their new pastor in a grand fashion with a week of festivities leading up to the official installation service on September 14, 1985. The festivities included a musical concert with Dr. Vernard Johnson and other local churches.

The official installation service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday



PASTOR ANDREW CALHOUN, III

day with Bishop J. D. Husband officiating and Dean Oliver Haney assisting. The service was attended by many of the local community, both civil and religious leaders as well as out of town guest. Following in installation service there was a banquet held at the luxury DeSota Hilton in downtown Savannah.

FOUR SQUARE MINISTRY

Holy Greetings to the saints of God everywhere, from Indiana North.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us here at Foursquare Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, with one of the largest and fastest growing Radio Ministry in the state of Northern Indiana. We also publish a monthly radio periodical called the "MESSENGER".

If it be the Lord's will, we will start building a new COGIC church some time in November 1985. Pray for us as we endeavor to work and build for the Lord.

Elder E. Chester, Pastor, 2340 No. College Ave. Indianapolis, Ind. 46205

PASTOR AND WIFE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Elder R. Gilmore, pastor of the Mt. Calvary COGIC, Harrisburg, Pa., and Sis. Gwendolyn Gilmore recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Elder Gilmore hails from Roxboro, North Carolina. He often tells of how, in September, 1957, he stopped in Harrisburg to visit his uncle, the late pastor Henry Williams. He was on his way to New York City to "live it up". God had other plans for his life. On September 25, 1957, while in Harrisburg, God saved him and filled him with the Holy Ghost. He later moved the rest of his immediate family to Pennsylvania to live. He remained at the then called Broad St. COGIC, under Pastor Williams. It was in 1959, that God called him to the ministry.

Elder Gilmore met his wife, formerly Gwendolyn Chestnut, in September 1958. They were attending the annual State Convocation in Philadelphia, Pa. She had moved to Harrisburg from Tabor City, North Carolina with her parents in May, 1958. She accepted Christ at an early age, while in North Carolina, under Elder Keefus Green.

They were married on October 1, 1960, in her mother's home. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Williams. From this union, there are three sons; Anthony, Kevin and Jeffrey, and one daughter; Cassandra.

Elder Gilmore was ordained in 1962, by the late Bishop O. T. Jones, Sr. He has labored in the capacity of janitor, teacher, counselor, local and district Sunday School Superintendent, District YPWW President, State Finance and anywhere he could be of service. He is currently the

Harrisburg District Expeditor. He served as assistant pastor to Elder Williams until his death in November, 1972. Immediately afterward, he was assigned pastorate by Bishop O. T. Jones, Jr.

Jeremiah 3:15 says God gives pastors according to His heart which would feed us knowledge and understanding. Elder Gilmore is one such pastor. He has never been too busy to help God's people. Whether it be settling disputes between children to providing spiritual guidance, he has always been available. It has been said that behind every good man is a good woman. First Lady Gilmore is just that. Proverbs speaks of a virtuous woman and the scarcity of them. "Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies." Solomon's book goes on to tell us strength and honor are in her clothing; she is a crown to her husband. That type person can be found in Sis. Gilmore. Standing behind her mate, she is supportive of him, encouraging to others and maintains her household as well.

Mt. Calvary praises God for these two people. Elder Gilmore and Sis. Gilmore are saints in every sense of the word. We can only continually pray God's blessing for them. May they share many more years together. We shall love them always.

Submitted by,
Sis. Vivian Browne

Men! Saved Men! Good Looking Men! God's Men!

The Annual Men's Weekend took place from Wednesday, September 18 through Sunday, September 22 and it was a glorious presentation of the men of Mt. Airy Church.

Our guest speaker for the weekend was Dr. J. C. Haynes of Hartford, Connecticut where he pastors Christ Temple Church of God in Christ. This anointed man of God shared the Word of God with us in a very clear, straight-forward manner. It was inspiring just to observe how he handled the Word of life. It was nourishing to our souls as we feasted on his explanation of the Word for application in our lives.

On Saturday, the men sponsored a FAMILY BOWLING PARTY, and we had a great time...fun, fun, fun. Husbands and wives and children spent the Saturday afternoon together in fun.

TESTIMONIAL FOR ELDER S. E. MITCHELL

Dr. S. E. Mitchell was honored with a testimonial dinner on September 14, 1985. The dinner was held at the elegant Wyndham Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

One of the premier pioneers of evangelism, Dr. Mitchell was honored for service to the Church of God in Christ (National and International) in general and the St. Andrew Church of God in Christ in particular.

Bishop L. H. Ford, the First Assistant to Bishop J. O. Patterson, of Chicago, Illinois, was the guest speaker. Bishop Ford headed an impressive list of friends and supporters present.

Other notables among the approximately 200 guests were, of course, Dr. Mitchell's beautiful wife, Sister Jean Mitchell and Bishop J. Neaul Haynes, General Board Member and Jurisdictional prelate of Texas Northeast diocese. Superintendent T. L. Young, Dr. Mitchell's District Superintendent and Second Assistant to Bishop J. Neaul Haynes and Toastmaster, Superintendent Frank W. Smith of Texas Northeast were in attendance. Gospel Recording Artists, Sis. Sara Jordan Powell and Saxophonist, Dr. Vernard Johnson, were among the well wishers.

The guests who came included some from as far away as Connecticut, Illinois, Washington, D.C., Louisiana and all over Texas.

We dined on prime ribs with all the trimmings, but feasted spiritually on "The Power in You", the Holy Ghost message delivered by Bishop Ford. The message, which was taken from Ephesians 3:20 exhorted all who attended to do something great for God. It was the highlight of

many highlights during this grand affair.

There were many expressions and presentations given to encourage Dr. Mitchell. The State Mission Department of Texas Northeast, of which Dr. Mitchell is President, gave him a plaque commemorating his successful services as President.

Sister Sara Jordan Powell thrilled our hearts with a special song that she dedicated to Dr. Mitchell.

Elder H. B. Horn, Jr., the Assistant Pastor of the St. Andrew Church, gave Dr. Mitchell a tribute entitled "An Eternal Flame" and presented him a plaque from the St. Andrew Ministerial Staff.

Brother Michael McKay and Sister Leona Adams presented a musical tribute with the theme of "God first, others second and self last. Sister Adams finished the musical tribute by telling Dr. Mitchell to "Be Encouraged".

Dr. Vernard Johnson cut short a concert in Washington, D.C. to fly in for his Pastor's celebration, then played a medley of praise songs.

Finally an original poem entitled "S. E. Mitchell" was read by writer, Jacci Webb.

The St. Andrew Church of God in Christ of Denton, Texas, wishes to thank all who attended and/or supported them in this activity to honor their Pastor, Dr. S. E. Mitchell, of the Church of God in Christ National and International Evangelism Department.

Humbly submitted,
Elder Earl Taylor, Publicist, St. Andrew COGIC, P. O. Box 2016, Denton, Texas 76201.

MT. AIRY MEN'S DAY

On Sunday morning, the men had their Annual Men's Day Breakfast. This year it was held at the Adam's Mark Hotel (and since you had to be a 'male' to attend that left us 'fe-males' out). But they reported that they had 300 MEN at the breakfast and 8 MEN accepted Christ as their personal Savior...eight men got saved. Oh Praise God! What a time that must have been.

The men sang...the male chorus was beautiful (looking good and sounding good!). In the Sunday morning service, the Pastor called for EVERY MALE in the sanctuary to come to the altar and kneel before God in prayer...in addition to those kneeling at the altar the male chorus was kneeling in the choir loft. Oh, what a glorious sight!...men and boys crowding the front of the church to pray. I've never seen so many men in one place ON THEIR KNEES. O Praise God!

God is yet saving MEN at Mt. Airy Church...God is yet bringing MEN into the fold...single MEN...married MEN...young MEN...middle-aged MEN...senior MEN. Be encouraged, my sisters, God is working it out FOR YOUR GOOD!

I feel honored to be A WOMAN who fellowships with these kind of men...I feel even more honored to be THE WIFE of one of these fine saved brothers. O Praise God!

We thank God for our Pastor, Elder Ernest C. Morris, whom the Lord has blessed with the wisdom for winning MEN to Christ...an humble man who is secure in his own manhood and can therefore respect and relate to other men.

Carolyn D. Perry

UNEQUALLY YOKED**Continued from page 5**

that fact.

Although the unequally yoked wife is to witness her faith silently, she should not withhold opinions or counsel from her husband or keep secrets from him. She shouldn't be afraid to mention the Lord or speak of her various church activities and Christian friends that are a part of her life. Marriage is after all a partnership. Intellect and emotions must be shared. It is a relationship in which two people are free to divulge their views, concerns, feelings and expectations.

The lady encounters many unique problems. In many ways she is on her own. She has to go to church alone, he does not pray with her. Her husband may be jealous of the brothers at the church, often, even the pastor. Differences in belief can cause severe conflict over the upbringing of the children. Social activities and friends are another source of conflict. She may even suffer physical and verbal abuse.

An unequally yoked woman can be happy without compromising her faith or dedication to Christ.

Concentrate on cultivating all aspects of your marriage. Expect to be happy. Think on the good things of life; the lovely, good reports, pure things and so on (read Phil. 4). Your husband's spiritual state does not have to cause you to be unhappy always.

Don't expect him however to be reasonable about spiritual things.

Problems, by the way are a part of any marriage. Don't use the fact that he is not saved as an excuse for other failings in the marriage. Your husband is "yours" and because of that look for the positive things in his life. What qualities attracted you to him? Has he matured? What does he do that please you?

Don't constantly criticize him, but rather as in any relationship, build him up. Love him and treat him right...

Please ladies, don't be "Super Spiritual." We can sometimes be so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good. After all, you are just a sinner saved by grace.

While waiting for God to change his life, pray for your husband and every facet of his life, not just for his salvation. Sweetly,

let him know you are praying for him.

God loves you and He does indeed hear your prayers. He is concerned about your situation. Don't give up. Cast your care on Him, He really, really does care for you.

ANSWERED PRAYERS**Continued from page 5**

At times, I believe our actions amuse the Heavenly Father. We pray, then run ahead of Him, figuring out the method by which He will answer our prayer. I have found that He answers in His own way and in His own time.

Once during a devotional period I was hungrily searching for a verse of Scripture that I had read several times before. Despite the use of references and the concordance, I could not find the verse. The strange thing about the matter was that much later I found clear leads to the particular verse in my concordance. There are times I feel we are blinded that we may receive a blessing. I then earnestly sought the Lord in prayer to let me find the verse. Renewing my search proved fruitless. I felt somewhat downhearted, surely after I had prayed the Lord would have let me find the verse.

That night I dreamed I was standing before an audience to speak. I asked the Late Missionary Ophelia Lester to read the 23rd Psalms. Seated to my right on an elevated platform sat the late Bishop Roberts, my father in the gospel. He interrupted, "What you want is in Corinthians." I thought, "He doesn't know what I want." He repeated, "What you want is in Corinthians." I stepped over to him. In his lap was a large open Bible. As I looked I saw the large heading of I Corinthians. The next morning I began reading the first chapter of first Corinthians. When I reached the 26th verse, THERE WAS THE VERSE I HAD PRAYED TO FIND!

Thursday, February 14, 1985, about 2:40 a.m., I was involved in a most treasured experience. The day before, I had had such a hunger and longing to feel the reassuring presence of the Lord. As I worked around the house, I was praying (sometimes near tears) that the Lord would give me some reassurance that He was with me, for I am engaged in a great responsible work for Him.

Evangelist Mary Lou Parker
Greater Faith Tabernacle
COGIC
Mt. Vernon, Illinois

About 1:15 a.m., Thursday morning, I awoke. Unable to go back to sleep, I thought of the goodness of God and silently sang praises in my heart to Him. For some reason (I now know it was prompted by the Holy Ghost) I decided, "If I'm awake at 2:30, I'm going in to the living room and sit on the couch." I had the strange feeling that the Lord wanted to commune with me in some special way. I fell asleep around 2:00 a.m. Again I awoke. I glanced at the bedside digital clock, it was 2:30 a.m.! As I made my way to the living room I prayed what you would call a prayer of apology, "Lord, I don't want to be presumptuous." I didn't know, if just maybe, by my own desire and hunger, I was doing this on my own. I sat on the couch a few minutes watching the doorway, I thought maybe I would see Him. I soon nodded off. About 2:40 a.m., I awoke. "Well," I thought, "He didn't come, I must have been mistaken. I'm going back to bed." Before I could arise from the couch, a glorious Presence filled the room! It enveloped me, blotting out my surroundings. I could not discern any form or figure, just an overpowering Presence of love. Although I think I remained on the couch the duration of the visitation, I don't really know. It could have been my spirit that was involved in the experience. I was lifted up into the center of this Presence. I felt weightless and at a complete oneness with this Presence. I felt as if I was being held by unseen arms. The greatest sensation I felt was LOVING COMFORT. I felt safe as a child in its mother's arms. This feeling was so overwhelming, it seemed as if I wanted the Lord to carry me back to bed and pull the covers over me as a mother would in putting her child to bed. Of course He didn't. Again in this Presence, I was at the bedroom doorway trying to take steps. I could only move or take a step as He gave me the ability. I could not move on my own. Then He was gone and I was on the couch. I sat there in a state of joyous awe. Back in bed under my own power, I finally fell asleep.

In our labor for the Lord there are times we sorely need encouragement and to feel the realness of His presence. It is so comforting to know that God sees, knows and cares, and in His own way and time comes to comfort and reassure us. He satisfies our prayers of longing and lifts us to new spiritual heights, so we may joyfully say, He came!

"A SOLDIER'S STORY"
Continued from page 2

such a company of high-powered preachers, but he was obedient to his request and as a result of that humble spirit, God has raised him up to be a giant among the prophets of this land.

From Little Rock he went to St. Louis, and from there to Portland, Oregon. While in Portland, Elder Griffin worshipped with the Assistant Overseer of Oregon, Elder

Lomax.

In March of 1945, he married

Daisy Green, who is the present State Supervisor of Utah. The following month they moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. Where they worshipped with Elder Jennings at the Mt. Zion COGIC until the following year, where Elder Griffin saw the need to start a work in Ogden, Utah, which they did, starting in their home, occasionally they had service in the home of Elder and Sis. S. V. Miller. But they had a family. They later moved to the Community Building to have services there. On Sundays they would have to be out by 9:00 p.m., and there were times when the Lord would really be blessing, and there came a knock on the door letting them know that time was up. Glory be to God.

Elder Griffin was ordained in 1947, during the Convocation at Reno, Nevada by the late Bishop Isaac Finley, Overseer of Utah, Idaho, Nevada. During 1947, four souls were saved. In 1948, they bought a new Chevrolet so they could pick up the saints. In 1949, they went to West Ogden, the late Elder Gray was having a service in a house, they later worshiped in a trailer, and also a boxcar. Elder Griffin mortgaged his car to purchase the land to build the basement. They sold dinners, pies, and had musicals, programs, and anniversaries to raise money. In 1953, the Convocation was held at the church which was completed, but still was in debt. Mother Griffin and Mother Golding, the church mother, and others spent night after night cooking pies and dinners to help raise money, and yet they went to work the next morning.

God gave Mother Golding a 5:00 a.m. prayer meeting in the winter time, which she and her children and others attended. Elder Griffin has spent many of nights praying for the people.

There were times when he would be so weak from fasting that he would barely have strength to climb over a fence. All this, that he might build God a house of worship.

What may seem to most people, misfortune, has befallen Elder Griffin in the last few years, as a result of a battle with diabetes, he has become a double amputee, which the doctors declared that he would never be able to walk again, and be confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Another doctor even went as far to say that because of the combination of the diabetes and heart condition he would not last three years, and if he did, he would just be a vegetable. But defying all odds and remembering that "my times are in his hand" Ps. 31:15. He overcame that, and is not only walking but dancing and rejoicing in the God of his salvation.

Elder Griffin's membership has grown from those four members to a present membership of 89. But the lives he has touched has been in the hundreds. He is known and loved by many throughout the community, and this goes beyond denominational barriers, for he is known as a

man of prayer who tells everyone to "Lift their hands to the Lord" and many have been helped by doing just that. Before his affliction, Elder Griffin could be seen in the city hospitals and nursing homes praying for the sick and now though limited in how often he can go, he has a very effective telephone ministry, whereby he can reach the people, knowing that God is everywhere. During one of Elder Griffin's hospital stay, while confined to a wheelchair, he could be found going room to room praying for those least fortunate than himself, refusing to let his temporary setback stop him from being about his Father's business.

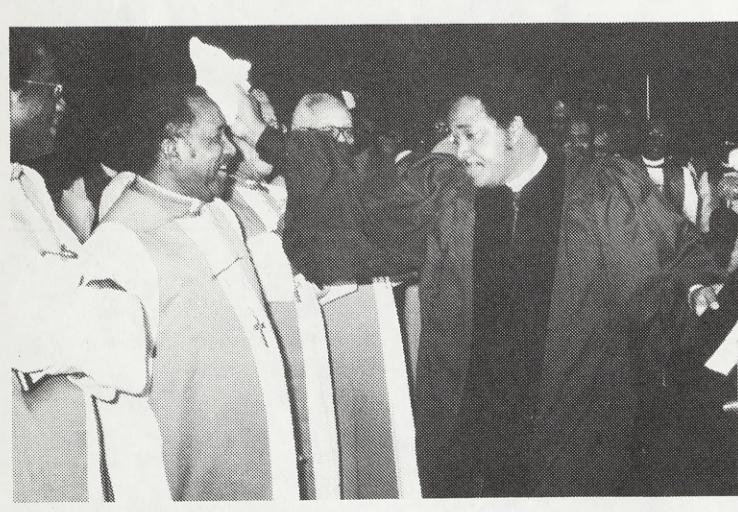
A tribute to unselfish and faithful service to the community, he was named "Pastor of the Year" by the Community Action Agency during the black history observance, and honored with a plaque and standing ovation. All the pastors and ministers regardless of race religion or ethnic affiliations testify to his being their inspiration in their ministries.

He has a vision to expand the church or buy another building and has the faith that God will grant his request for his motto is: "Lord don't let me die, till I finish my work, for no man can do my work for me". The devil tried to steal this vision from him this past March, while attending a mission day program at the Mother church, Mt. Zion COGIC in Salt Lake City, where Mother Griffin was the speaker he took sick, and his heart stopped beating and for all practical purpose was dead. But with much supplication and praying by the saints, and the expert assistance of the pastor's wife, who is a registered nurse, and the help of others, CPR was applied and after 10-15 minutes (though it seemed like hours) he resumed breathing and by the time the paramedics arrived he was breathing on his own. He was later taken to the Hospital where he was confined for a week, and had returned stronger than before the heart attack. After going to the doctor for a follow-up, they were amazed how strong his heart was, and there not being any effects from it, which shows us that "there is no secret what God can do", and that God is still in control and it is he who can call us home at his discretion praise our God.

Truly this is a fitting conclusion to a "Soldier's Story."

Respectfully submitted,
Minister Henry McAllister
Griffin Temple Cogic
Ogden, Utah
Utah Jurisdiction

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ELDER CAMPBELL PREACHING COMMUNION MESSAGE

OBITUARY

LaFleur —

Mrs. Lucy Mae Young LaFleur, affectionately called "Ma Lou" was born on September 8, 1906, in Mason, Tennessee. She was the fourth child born to the late Mr. and Mrs. George (Tealy) Young. Her early education was received at Tucker Church School, Killian Grammar School and St. Mary's Boarding School in Tennessee. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis, Tennessee and Henderson Business School. She was employed as a teacher at Baskerville and Middleway School. In 1928, under the teaching of Missionary Martha Barbour, she received Christ as her personal Saviour in the home of Overseer A. B. McEwen. She was a member of the Temple Church of God in Christ pastored by the founder and organizer of the Church of God in Christ, the late Bishop Charles Harrison Mason.

In 1932, she moved to Buffalo, New York and became a member of 501 Clinton Street, pastored by Elder T. J. Jennifer. Later, she became a member of Holy Temple Church of God in Christ, pastored by the late Bishop E. F. McClellan. When her brother, the late Elder Allen Young, began to pastor, she united with the Faith Chapel Church of God in Christ. Her outstanding and untiring services in the Church was the Sewing Circle, Sunday School Teacher, National Secretary for Bishop A. B. McEwen, Corresponding Secretary for Elder S. T. Samuel (St. Samuel), President of the Holy Temple Usher Board, Sunday School Superintendent, District Sunday School Superintendent-Teacher for Class No. 5 (Juniors), Church Mother (Faith Chapel) and State Sunday School Treasurer for thirty-five years.

In 1951, she was appointed State President of the Young Women's Christian Council, a title she has held for thirty-four years. Her work has awarded her many honors and awards, such as the Outstanding Traveler Award and the Western New York Mother of the Year Award for 1980. She also attended every National Convocation in Mem-

phis, Tennessee since 1928, a total of fifty-six years.

She was united in holy matrimony to Max LaFleur on July 24, 1948.

Mrs. Lucy Mae Young LaFleur leaves to mourn her passing, but yet rejoice in her memory, her husband, Max LaFleur; one daughter, Dorcas Bradley; one grandson, Larue (Gina) Bradley, II; one sister, Bertha (Aaron) Archie; two brothers, Horace and Emerson (Gladys) Young; two sisters-in-law, Blanche Young and Mattye Young, all of Buffalo, New York.

Preceding her in death were five brothers, James, Allen, Simon, George and Morris.

She also leaves to mourn, one adopted daughter, Cornelius Foster of Dayton, Ohio; four Godchildren, Robert Barnett, Beverly Merriweather, Angela Foster and Mia Yates, many nieces, nephews and a host of relatives and friends.

Her spirit-filled soul took its flight across death's stream where at this moment she rests from her labor, but her memory will live in the hearts and minds of us who knew her. Our hearts are filled with sorrow, but we realize that this "home going" is the greatest experience of Sister Lucy's life, which was filled with wonderful experiences, as she was a worker with God.

A Godly life ended on Sunday, September 8, 1985, when Lucy was taken from us.

There are three steps to Heaven: out of self, into Christ, into Glory. Sis. LaFleur took these two steps in life and lived a beautiful life in Christ. Now she has taken the third where there is no more weeping, no pain, no sorrow, no disappointment. Her enthusiasm for her religion, her willingness to pay the price and to do her best for her Lord was her life's purpose. She now has fulfilled that purpose. Family and friends, though they may weep awhile, should rejoice with her and thank our Heavenly Father for the life she lived among us. For me to live is Christ and to die is gain. The

Church has lost a noble character, but God has promised in His great book, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come again to you."

Buggs —

MRS. BERNICE BUGGS, THE OLDEST daughter of Mr. George and Mrs. Emily Hughes, was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on August 5, 1912.

She was Saved in the year, 1924, under the Pastorate of the late Bishop J. H. Boone and his wife, Missionary Tena Boone at the Hayden Street Church of God in Christ, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

She attended Public School, and graduated from Central High School, Fort Wayne.

She was a faithful worker in the Church. She made a great decision at the age of 13; she chose to continue in the Church of God in Christ, thereby remaining in the faith until the end. She lived in the home of Pastor and Mrs. John H. Boone.

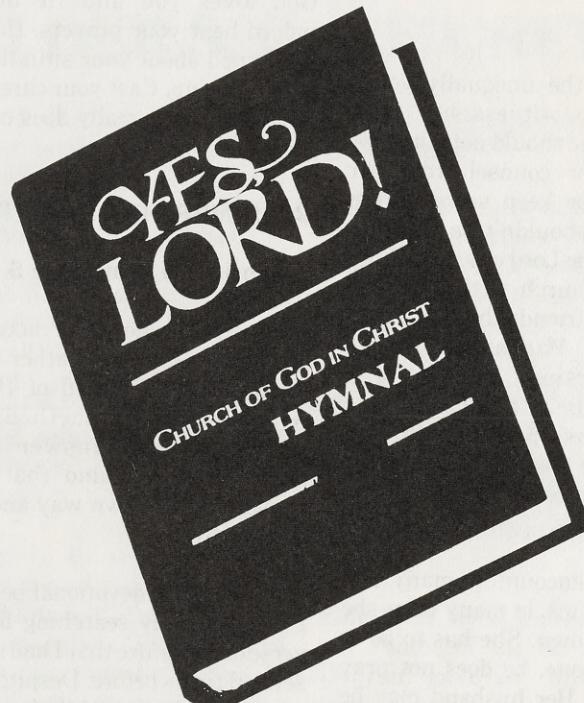
On September 3, 1932, she was united in Holy Matrimony to Minister James C. Buggs. To this union was born 5 children.

In 1938, she went with her husband and oldest daughter to Marion, Indiana, where Rev. Buggs founded his first Church of God in Christ at 35th and Hay Maker Street, which now is Buggs Chapel.

Mrs. Bernice Buggs worked beside her husband in the 5 Churches he pastored in Marion, Fort Wayne, and Indianapolis: Buggs Chapel, Thompson Memorial in Marion, Indiana, Memorial Tabernacle in Fort Wayne; and Buggs Temple in Indianapolis.

She leaves to cherish her memory; her devoted husband, Rev. James C. Buggs; 2 daughters, Mrs. Delores Casey, Anchorage, Alaska, and Mrs. Cynthia Randolph, Los Angeles, California; a son, Rev. James T. Buggs, Taswell, Indiana; Infant Twins have preceded her in death; a sister, Mrs. Velma Stevenson, South Bend, Indiana; 14 Grandchildren and 12 Great Grandchildren. Attending are: 1 Granddaughter, Tanya Wilson of Anchorage, Alaska and 5

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Grandsons, Victor, Jr., Vincent, and Stephen Casey, all of Alaska, Darryl and Kamalis Buggs, Indianapolis; a Host of Relatives and Friends.

"Sunset and Evening Star
And one clear Call for me;
And may there be no moaning at
the bar,
When I'm put out to sea."

Humbly Submitted By The Family

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